



March 17, 2023

The Honorable Jim Wood, DDS  
Chair, Assembly Health Committee  
1020 N St., Room 390  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: AB 1471 (Pellerin) — SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Wood:

California hospitals have spent the last decade retrofitting their buildings to prevent collapse after a major earthquake. However, the deadlines for meeting seismic requirements are rigid and require statutory change to adjust. **For these reasons, the California Hospital Association, on behalf of its more than 400 hospital and health system members, supports AB 1471.**

While nearly all hospital buildings have met the first requirement — to withstand an earthquake — additional flexibility is critical for a handful of communities with hospitals still working hard to meet this requirement.

Santa Clara Valley Medical Center is one such hospital, which can meet the requirements, but needs additional time to do so. Santa Clara Valley Medical Center has experienced issues and delays beyond its control. While current state law allows for flexibility on compliance milestones, it is inflexible when it comes to the final compliance deadline, requiring hospital closure should the deadline not be met. This legislation is needed so that Santa Clara Valley Medical Center can continue operating while still making progress on all its buildings ahead of a July 1, 2026, deadline.

AB 1471 (Pellerin) would provide a critical extension of the first seismic deadline for Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. For these reasons, CHA respectfully requests your “AYE” vote on AB 1471.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Austin Scott", written in a cursive style.

Kathryn Austin Scott  
Senior Vice President, State Relations and Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Gail Pellerin  
The Honorable Members of the Assembly Health Committee  
Angela Pontes, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor’s Office

The Honorable Jim Wood, DDS  
March 17, 2023

Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary, Health and Human Services Agency  
Elizabeth Landsberg, Director, Department of Health Care Access and Information  
Gino Folchi, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus